Atty. Docket No. 277/017 Response to Office Action Made Final of February 22, 2006

TING OF THE CLAIMS

Following is a listing of all claims in the present application, which is presented for the Examiner's convenience:

1. (Original) A method for manufacturing a flexible MEMS transducer, comprising: forming a sacrificial layer on a flexible substrate;

sequentially depositing a membrane layer, a lower electrode layer, an active layer, and an upper electrode layer on the sacrificial layer by plasma enhanced chemical vapor deposition (PECVD);

sequentially patterning the upper electrode layer, the active layer, and the lower electrode layer;

depositing an upper protective layer to cover the upper electrode layer, the lower electrode layer, and the active layer;

patterning the upper protective layer to be connected to the lower electrode layer and the upper electrode layer, and then depositing a connecting pad layer and patterning the connecting pad layer to form a first connecting pad to be connected to the lower electrode layer and a second connecting pad to be connected to the upper electrode layer; and

patterning the membrane layer to expose the sacrificial layer and removing the sacrificial layer.

2. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the substrate is formed of a flexible high molecular material.

- 3. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the substrate is formed of a material selected from the group consisting of polymer, polyimide, and metallic thin film.
- 4. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

 forming a lower protective layer by depositing either silicon nitride or silicon oxide on
 the flexible substrate, before depositing the sacrificial layer on the flexible substrate.
- 5. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 4, wherein the lower protective layer is formed by either PECVD or sputtering.
- 6. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 5, wherein the lower protective layer is formed at a temperature of less than about 400 °C.
- 7. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 4, wherein the lower protective layer has a thickness of less than about $10 \, \mu m$.
- 8. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein forming the sacrificial layer is performed by coating a polyimide layer on the substrate and patterning the coated polyimide layer by either a wet etching or a dry etching in accordance with a configuration of the membrane layer.
- 9. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the sacrificial layer is formed to a thickness of less than about 10 µm.

- 10. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the membrane layer is formed of silicon nitride.
- 11. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the membrane layer is deposited using PECVD.
- 12. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the membrane layer has a thickness of less than about 5 μ m.
- 13. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein patterning the membrane layer is performed by a dry etching.
- 14. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the upper electrode layer and the lower electrode layer are formed of a material selected from the group consisting of metals and electrically conductive polymers.
- 15. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first connecting pad and the second connecting pad are formed of a material selected from the group consisting of metals and electrically conductive polymers.
- 16. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the lower electrode layer has a thickness of between about 0.01 μm to 5 μm .

- 17. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the upper electrode layer has a thickness of between about 0.01 μm to 5 μm .
- 18. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the active layer is formed by depositing a piezopolymer on the lower electrode layer.
- 19. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the piezopolymer is deposited by one of a spin coating and an evaporation.
- 20. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 18, wherein the piezopolymer is selected from the group consisting of PVDF, PVDF-TrEF, TrEF, Polyurea, polyimide and Nylon.
- 21. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the active layer is formed to a thickness of between about 1 μm to 10 μm .
- 22. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the active layer has a resonance frequency of between about 1 Hz to 100 kHz.
- 23. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the active layer has a length of between about 50 μm to 1000 μm .

- 24. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein patterning the active layer is performed by either a wet etching or a dry etching.
- 25. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the upper protective layer is formed of either silicon nitride or silicon oxide.
- 26. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the upper protective layer has a thickness of between about 1 μm to 10 μm .
- 27. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the upper protective layer is deposited using PECVD.
- 28. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein patterning the upper protective layer is performed by either a wet etching or a dry etching.
- 29. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the PECVD includes heating to a temperature not exceeding about 400 °C
- 30. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the active layer is a polymeric piezoelectric layer.